

The Southeast News

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

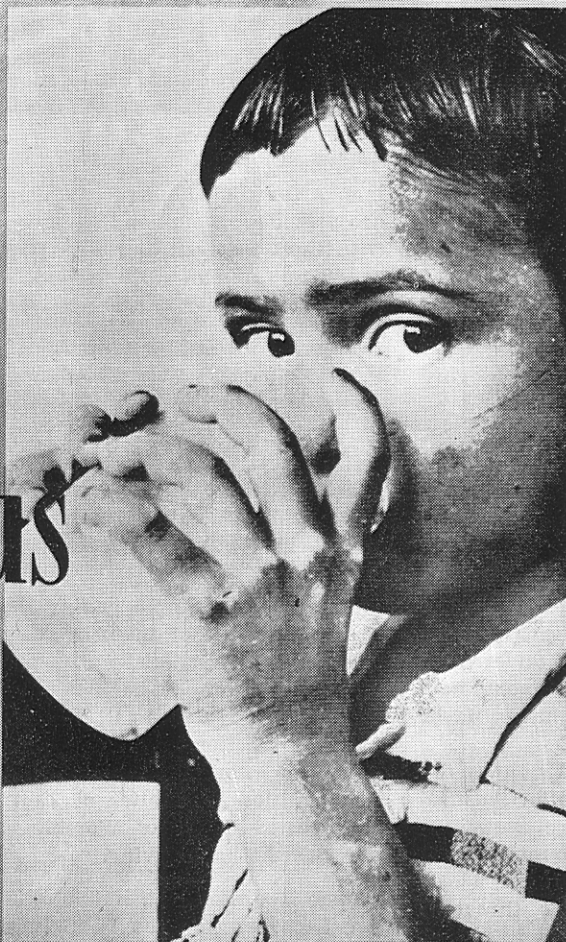
VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 1

OCTOBER, 1956

Aid the Hungry through Your Church

Share
Our
Surplus

in
the
better
way



SHARING OUR SURPLUS IN THE BETTER WAY

By EARLE H. BALLOU

Is your church planning a special Thanksgiving appeal this year for the support of the SOS program? At this season when we consider the tremendous abundance which we enjoy—what better way could there be to express our gratitude to God than to share that abundance with those less fortunate, with the homeless, the hungry, the destitute people in other lands?

The Share Our Surplus program enables you to do this. What's more, it offers you the biggest food bargain ever known: more than 100 pounds of food distributed to those in need for every \$1.00 you give!

How is this possible? Because the U. S. government makes available millions of pounds of surplus food for free distribution to the needy. Shipping costs to most areas served are paid either by our government or that of the country to whom the food is going. Additional costs of distribution and administration are paid by religious agencies, denominational and inter-denominational, which cooperate in the SOS program. These include Church World Service and our own Congregational Christian Service Committee.

The stockpile of surplus agricultural commodities in this country is staggering. As of May 1956, the Commodity Credit Corporation owned outright about \$6 billion worth of these goods, having acquired them under national price support operations.

Who Receives SOS Foods?

They are the people who have been left hungry and helpless by floods, earthquakes and other natural disasters. They are the victims of political upheavals and wars. They are the undernourished millions living in over-populated, unproductive areas, who have never known enough to eat.

Hundreds of thousands of widows, orphans and school children in Austria, Italy, Korea and elsewhere are given supplemental feeding. In countries such as Germany, Korea and India where food is scarce, tuberculosis threatens the population and many would not survive but for the free distribution of food and drugs. This is also true of thousands of aged in Germany, France and Belgium.

Most of all, they are the refugees and

the uprooted: More than 900,000 displaced Arabs living in tents and barracks in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Gasa and Egypt, plus 60,000 refugee children unable to get U. N. relief. 650,000 refugees from Communist China in overcrowded Hong Kong, and thousands in Taiwan. 100,000 men, women and children who have fled from villages in Indonesia to escape bands of terrorists, and 500,000 in Viet Nam. Hundreds of thousands of Koreans made homeless by war. 900,000 uprooted in Central Europe, increasing in numbers as escapees pour out of the Iron Curtain countries daily. Two and one-half million indigents in Greece registered under the Ministry of Welfare as not having enough to live on.

To as many of these millions as we can, we give life-giving food in the name of Christ, which is always giving in the better way. So our gift of bread "becomes more than bread alone. It brings spiritual friendship to the friendless . . ."

"Sharing in this better way, giving thanks for the abundance which God has provided in our land, we keep faith with those in need and strengthen the bonds of human brotherhood from which alone can rise a better world for all."

To Tell Your People

Only through your help can the greatest good be done. The special Thanksgiving Week Share-Our-Surplus emphasis will be launched on Nov. 18 at services in the national capital and in major cities in other sections of the country.

To tell your people about this program, a variety of materials is available free. Your minister has probably received a sample packet containing posters, large and small leaflets, and special collection envelopes. Also included is information about the film-strip entitled "A Matter of Fact", and a suggested Order of Worship for a Service of Thanksgiving.

(The Rev. Earle H. Ballou is Executive Secretary of the Congregational Christian Service Committee.)

Faith is more than a passive acceptance of the will of God. It is also an aggressive cooperation with that will.

Project Of The Month

Hallowe'en is taking on a new look—for several years now, in many communities around the country, the crew-cut hobgoblins and ghosts still prowling and small curly-headed witches ring doorbells. But they are not out to do damage to clotheslines or soap windows—they are participating in one or another of the "trick or treat" programs designed to help others. In some towns they will be called "Unselfish Beggars" and will be collecting good used clothing for the Congregational Christian Service Committee. Other communities will be collecting funds for the Share Our Surplus program of Church World Service.

Here are some of the things that unselfish beggars help to do: through UNICEF, a penny will provide six glasses of milk for a child in Africa and a nickel will vaccinate five Indonesian children against tuberculosis; a dime given to S. O. S. will give a hungry child in India a cup of milk each day for three months; used clothing sent through our Congregational Christian Service Committee will enable children in Greece to attend school when formerly they stayed away for lack of warm clothing.

If one of these programs is being conducted in your community, we suggest that you cooperate in the on-going program. You might publicize and prepare for it in your church school, or offer facilities for a collection depot and place to hold a party. If this idea is new to your town, here is an opportunity to begin a good community program that has proven to be a success elsewhere. This is a fine chance to get all age groups into the act: parents and older young people acting as drivers, taking the youngsters to their assigned areas and picking up boxes of the used clothing; junior highs doing advance publicity through posters; and the youngsters making identifying armbands, cartons for collecting money, and collecting large paper sacks for the used clothing.

Used clothing should be sent postage prepaid to the warehouse at 110 E. 29th St., New York 16, N. Y. Contributions of money for the Service Committee, CROP and SOS receive credit under Our Christian World Mission and should be sent through the Southeast Convention office, marked "Trick or Treat".

Southern Union Day November 4th

At the Alabama Woman's Retreat in July, it was unanimously voted to promote Southern Union Day the first Sunday in November.

All Woman's Fellowship groups of the Alabama-Northwest Florida area (and of the entire Southeast Convention, too, if any wish to cooperate in this plan) have been urged to plan some project with the proceeds going for this purpose. The women will also request that a special offering be taken in each church on this day.

"If your church has services only once each month, and this does not fall on the first Sunday in November, please arrange to take your offering then," urges Mrs. A. D. Harry, president of the Alabama-NW Florida Women's Fellowship. "Southern Union has the brightest future ever. A new girls' dormitory is now under construction, but even with this new addition there will not be enough space for all the boarding students who wish to attend the college. A new auditorium is desperately needed also. May we wholeheartedly unite our efforts now and give the college the support it deserves."

Contributions should be mailed to the Southeast Convention office, marked "for Southern Union Day".

Church Builders Club Meeting On November 11

The annual meeting of the Church Builders' Club will be held in LaGrange United Church on Sunday afternoon, November 11, from three to five o'clock, E. S. T.

Election of officers and trustees will be held, plans will be made for the future development of the club, and other business matters considered.

The club has paid \$4,036 to First Church of Douglas, Ga., \$250 to First Church of Tifton, Ga., and has about \$750 on hand from the second call to make an additional payment to Tifton church. The pledges from the second call have come in rather slowly, with more than three-fourths still unpaid.

The third church approved by the Board of Trustees of the Church Builders Club is Brookmeade Church in Nashville, Tenn. About \$100 has been



Team captains and members attending the Every Church Canvass training session held Sept. 4 at Central Church in Atlanta.

EVERY CHURCH CANVASS COMPLETED

The 20 team captains for the annual Every Church Canvass have reported moderate attendance and success. This year's canvass was conducted during the last two weeks of September by the SEC Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education.

At the training session for team captains and members, held in Central Church in Atlanta on Sept. 4, attendance was good and enthusiasm high.

The Rev. Matthew B. Porter Jr., SEC chairman of the Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education Committee, is leaving the Southeast Convention and the pastorate of Center

received towards this even though the third call has not gone out to members as yet. The date for the third call will be set during the annual meeting.

It is hoped that club members will be more than "paying members" of this fine club. To be a success, to build Congregational Christian Churches in the Southeast Convention, the club needs the active support and interest of every member.

Other areas and other denominations have adopted this idea, and through aggressive promotion have made it an outstanding success. The Methodists have already built more than 50 churches in our area through this plan.

Church in Atlanta at the end of October to assume the pastorate of Griswold First Congregational Church in Pachaug, Conn. Mr. Porter's splendid leadership will be greatly missed in the Southeast Convention. A new chairman will be appointed by the Board of Directors.

The pledge cards from churches are coming into the Convention office very slowly. It is hoped that each church will have returned its pledge card before the meeting of the SEC Board of Directors in Atlanta on Oct. 23, when the 1957 budget will be considered and planned. Even though the church does not increase its 1956-57 pledge to Our Christian World Mission, the blue pledge card should be returned to the Convention office with a notation of the amount the church wishes to pledge. Only in this way can the Board of Directors plan a realistic budget, based on the amount of funds which will be available.

Announcement will be made of the total pledges received just as soon as the pledge cards have been received and tabulated.

Some people think you have undermined the authority of the Bible just because you have raised questions concerning their opinions about the Bible.

Some people listen only for that which will strengthen them in the opinions they already hold.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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Volume 5 Oct., 1956 Number 1

Your Pastor And Mine

If he is young, he lacks experience; if his hair is grey, he is too old; if he has five or six children, he has too many; if he has none, he is setting a bad example.

If his wife sings in the choir she is being forward; if she does not, she is not interested in her husband's work.

If he speaks from notes, he has canned sermons and is dry; if he is extemporaneous, he is not deep.

If he spends too much time in his study, he neglects his people; if he visits, he is a gadabout.

If he uses too many illustrations, he neglects the Bible; if not enough, he is not clear.

If he condemns wrong, he is cranky; if he does not, he is a compromiser.

If he preaches an hour, he is windy; if less, he is lazy.

If he fails to please everybody, he is hurting the church; if he does please everybody, he has no convictions.

If he preaches tithing, he is a money-grabber; if he does not, he is failing to develop his people.

If he receives a large salary, he is mercenary; if a small salary, it proves he is not worth much.

If he preaches all the time, the people get tired of hearing one man; if he invites guest preachers, he is shirking responsibility.

So what! They say the preacher has an easy time.

WHY WRITE A HISTORY OF YOUR CHURCH?

The usual occasion for writing a history of a local church is its anniversary. The writer may be the pastor or an interested lay member. Whoever is selected, he should seek advice and help of the state conference committee on history, if there is one; also of town libraries, and the older members of the church. The Congregational Christian Historical Society stands ready, of course, to aid local and state church historians, be they amateurs or professionals, with sample histories and other materials.

As with most histories, the history of a local church is valuable largely for its cultural contribution. When one begins to study the historical background of his own church he acquires an understanding of the lasting values of the Christian church and its influence on the community.

The significance of our forefathers' efforts and trials in establishing and maintaining a church and its auxiliaries is truly great. Some of us take considerable pride in the fact that our churches are descended from the Pilgrim and Puritan Fathers, and know something of the heritage that comes out of the struggles of our denominational forebears. And yet, how many of us know the story of our predecessors in our own home state, or even in our particular local church? That history is significant and often more interesting because it is closer to our own church experience.

The story of each congregation, told simply and truthfully, may be rich in instruction. Most of us are apt to forget, or may not even have known, that the problems in our church today are not new but are in essence problems similar to those our Fathers faced. By a study of our own history we learn of

the danger in allowing our interest to decline in church affairs. We know churches have been depleted because certain individuals insisted upon personal whims or biased opinions. Indifferent leadership has destroyed the work that took years to accomplish. To know how these conditions came to be can serve as a lesson for today.

There are other significant chapters that are cheerful and encouraging. For example, the patient and wise services of a pastor, or the untiring efforts of a layman, often are the paramount reasons for the successful and encouraging growth of a church. Again and again, studies of our local churches have shown the great role played by ordinary men in their everyday tasks of participating in church activities. This will be found to be true in the formative years of all churches. The knowledge of the heroisms and labors of the past can be of high value for the present.

The history of a church is not merely something that we and others have left behind us; it moves along with us. Often, it is true, we fail to notice the past and all that it may mean to us. The value of our history is more than sentiment. An understanding of what has gone before should give us a better attitude in furthering the usefulness of our local church and denomination to its members, to the community, and to the missionary fields.

—Prof. Charles J. Kennedy

(Note: If you are interested in writing a history of your local church, write to the Congregational Christian Historical Society, 289 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y. and request NEWSLETTER, Volume III, No. 3, which tells how to write a church history and what to include in it.)

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct. 23 — Board of Directors' meeting in Atlanta
- Oct. 21-27 — United Nations Week (United Nations Day, Oct. 24)
- Oct. 28 — Reformation Sunday; special emphasis in Congregational Christian churches on Haystack Sunday
- Nov. 4 — Woman's Fellowship Sunday; Southern Union College Day
- Nov. 6 — Election day. Be sure to vote!
- Nov. 11 — Veterans Day. Stewardship Sunday. Church Builders' Club meeting in LaGrange, Ga.
- Nov. 18 — Forefathers' Day
- Nov. 26 - 30 — Minister's Convocation and School at Southern Union
- Nov. 27 — Georgia Council of Churches annual meeting in Atlanta

The Superintendent's Page

"WITNESS"

During the first week of October, it was our great honor to have Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer in the area for the Association and Conference meetings. As Associate Minister of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches, he brought us greetings from the rest of the "family"; and as our guest speaker, he brought us a message of high inspiration and challenge based upon the text quoted above. He certainly made all of us do some serious thinking and more than one listener went home divinely disturbed.

My own thoughts were along this vein: what kind of a "Witness for Christ" am I? What is the "witness" of the Congregational Christian Church to which I belong? What a tremendous responsibility Christ has placed upon those who dare to follow Him! No wonder he asked, "Are ye able?"

Just what kind of a witness are we making in this day in our church, in our community? Webster points out that a "witness" may be simply one "who has seen and knows something—a spectator." Anyone familiar with the scriptures knows that Jesus did not use the term in that sense alone. Such witnesses do no more than watch and listen, satisfying themselves but sharing with no one. Jesus insisted that those who saw and heard must act upon their new knowledge in the Gospel: "Not all who say unto me Lord, Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father, who is in heaven." "Go thou and do likewise." "Let any man who would come after me, deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me!" "Ye are my friends

"But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

—Acts 1:8

if ye do whatsoever I command you." "Go ye now into all the world and preach this Gospel unto the uttermost ends of the earth. . ."

Jesus left no doubt about what he expected us to do, if we are really serious in our decision to follow Him. We must be "witnesses" in the active sense as those who "give testimony, bear evidence, furnish proof." As people see us in the living of every day, what kind of evidence do we give to the fact that we are followers of the Man of Gallilee? And in our answer let's be aware that our "witness" is not what we say about ourselves but what others see in us.

Dr. Buschmeyer used a vivid illustration when he reminded us that the first act of a witness called to testify is to place his left hand on the Bible, and with his right hand uplifted before God and man, to promise "to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth!"

Are we as individuals and churches telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth — about the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man — about the redemptive love of God through Jesus Christ — about the glory and power of the Gospel—

about the church, the living body of Christ at work in the world — are we really telling the truth?

One wonders when he reads letters from individuals and organized groups, professing a Christian faith but filled with pride and hate; letters sometimes even quoting scripture to make the uninformed think that the Gospel condones such feelings of superiority and justifies violent action.

One wonders too, when he is called in to troubled churches where individuals, families, or boards have taken over the running of the church, forgetting completely the truth that "Christ is the only head of the Church."

And one wonders when he visits churches where people seem to have enough religion to see the difference between good and evil but not enough religion to be merciful and forgiving toward the sinner and the hypocrite.

Only the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth can bring salvation. As individuals, as churches, as members of society, we must be His worthy witnesses — here and in all the world. Let us therefore, humbly confessing our shortcomings, seek a greater understanding of the gospel, a deeper consecration to the Way, a more courageous stand for truth, that together we may go forward in the power of the Holy Spirit "toward a better witnessing church."

—Erston M. Butterfield

Highlights of the Association

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference



Moderator Rufus Obrecht, Mrs. Crosby, the Rev. Walter Crosby, and Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer at Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

The annual meeting of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference was held at First Congregational Church at Soddy, Tenn., on Sept. 29-30, with 92 delegates attending and every church represented.

Rufus Obrecht, who has been appointed Moderator to succeed the Rev. Collie Seymour when he moved to Garden City, Ala., was elected Moderator for 1956-57. Mr. Obrecht is an active layman in the Pilgrim Church of Chattanooga. Other officers elected were: Vice-moderator, Dr. Kendrick Grobel; Scribe, the Rev. George S. Hunt; Chaplain, the Rev. Charles Drake; and Treasurer, Emerson P. Poste.

Committee chairmen elected were: Ministry and Churches, the Rev. Arnold Slater; Survey and Church Aid, the Rev. Henry Weaver; Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education, the Rev. Hugh Lasseter; and Christian Education and Youth Work, Dr. Paul R. Reynolds.

Member-at-large to represent the conference on the SEC Board of Directors will be Mrs. Paul Reynolds; representative to the Tennessee Council of Churches, the Rev. Clyde C. Flannery.

Appointed as a committee to study the constitution and by-laws and recommend needed revisions at the 1957 annual meeting were the Rev. Clyde C. Flannery, chairman, with Emerson Poste and Orbin Coleman.

Fraternal delegates present were the Rev. Carleton Krueger, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Zimmerman and Mrs. Forest Lim-

baugh of the Belvedere Evangelical and Reformed Church.

Dr. Fred Buschmeyer's address, "Toward a Better Witnessing Church", was a highlight of the evening session.

Delegates voted to raise the Per Capita Share of conference members from 35c to 75c, in order to have more funds for conference work.

Central Alabama Association

The Central Alabama Association met Oct. 1-2 at Eclectic Watson Chapel Church. Theme for the meeting was "Prepare Ye the Way."

Mrs. Jettie Logan, Moderator, presided. Reports were given from the following: Women's Fellowship, Mrs. Marrell Rhodes; Layman's Fellowship, James Dollar; Organization and Church Committees, Supt. Erston M. Butterfield; Doane National PF Meeting, the Rev. Annie R. Campbell; General Council Meeting in Omaha, the Rev. Herbert Long; Southern Union College, Dr. A. R. Van Cleave.

On the morning of Oct. 2, the new committee members appointed met separately for workshop sessions: Missionary Education and Stewardship, led by Rev. Joe A. French; Christian Education, led by the Rev. Annie R. Campbell; Survey and Church Aid, led by Supt. Erston M. Butterfield; Ministry and Churches, led by Dr. A. R. Van Cleave.

New officers and committee members were installed by Supt. Butterfield: Moderator, the Rev. Herbert Long of East Tallassee; Assistant Moderator, the Rev. Henry Abbott; Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Miriam Fralic; Member-at-large, the Rev. N. A. Long.

Committee chairmen: Christian Education, Mrs. Archie Buce Jr.; Survey and Church Aid, Mrs. Beulah Wilson; Ministry and Churches, Mrs. Marrell Rhodes; Missionary Education, Stewardship and Evangelism, Mrs. Fannie Mae Brown.

North Alabama Association

Meeting Oct. 6-7 at the Union Grove Church near Haleyville, Ala., the North Alabama Association was called to order at three o'clock in the afternoon with Moderator Richard Waugh presiding.

Pressley Ingram, delegate from the association to the General Council meet-



A. B. Snell, president of SEC Laymen's Fellowship, with one of the posters illustrating his address at Kentucky-Tennessee Conference and North Alabama Association meetings.



Pilgrim Fellowship Choir of Central Alabama Association, made up of young girls from the churches of the area.



"Dinner on the grounds" at North Alabama Association meeting, held at Haleyville Union Grove Church.

and Conference Fall Meetings

ing in Omaha, Nebraska, gave a report of this meeting, using colored slides.

Separate workshop sessions were held for the laymen, women and Pilgrim Fellowship, led respectively by A. B. Snell, the Rev. Annie R. Campbell and Glenda Washburn.

During this period the laymen of North Alabama were organized into a Laymen's Fellowship by A. B. Snell, acting president of the SEC Laymen's Fellowship.

Mr. Snell also gave an address during the afternoon called "Ring the Bells and Tell the People."

A panel discussion on "The Life and Work of the Southeast Convention", and the film, "A Gift for My Son" completed the Saturday program.

The association sermon was delivered Sunday morning by Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer.

Sunday afternoon's program consisted of an address by Supt. Butterfield and election of officers, as follows:

Moderator, the Rev. Robt. L. Shelton of Moulton; Vice-moderator, Homer Barnes; Scribe and Treasurer, Glenda Washburn; Representative to SEC Board of Directors, Homer Barnes.

Committee Chairmen: Evangelism, the Rev. Guy L. Colbert; Christian Education, Mrs. Grace Fleming; Ministry and Churches, the Rev. Earnest Shelton; pastor-at-large, the Rev. Collie Seymour.

Georgia-South Carolina Conference

The conference met Oct. 3-4 at the Ambrose Church. The moderator, the Rev. Matthew B. Porter Jr., called the meeting to order at 11:00 a. m.

The delegates discussed a motion made and tabled, at the special meeting held on March 24, to form two associations, and the final vote was to continue the Georgia-South Carolina Conference. A committee was appointed to draw up a new constitution with the Rev. Peter Doherty chairman, and other members the Rev. Warren Blankenhorn, the Rev. Goff Bedford, Clyatt W. James, and the Rev. Thomas Shreve.

Concurrent meetings were held for the women, led by Mrs. H. Y. Sears, president of Women's Fellowship, and the Pilgrim Fellowship, led by the Rev. Annie R. Campbell.

Reports on the General Council meet-

ing at Omaha were given by delegates attending: the Rev. M. B. Porter showed the colored slides and spoke briefly. The Rev. Archie Belford spoke on the coming union between the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Churches. Dr. Thomas Anderson spoke on the social resolutions, explaining how the wrong copy (an uncorrected first draft) of the resolutions was printed in ADVANCE by mistake.

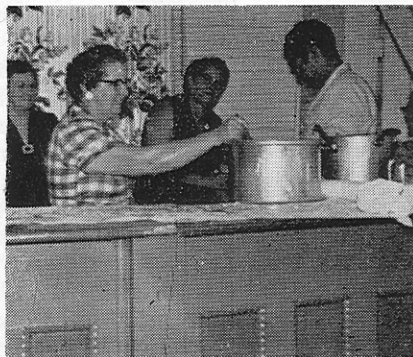
Dr. Fred Buschmeyer addressed the delegates during the evening session.

Officers and committee chairmen were elected as follows: Moderator, the Rev. Goff Bedford of Tifton; Asst. Moderator, the Rev. Ed. Knight; Secretary-treasurer, the Rev. Thomas Shreve; Representative to the Board of Directors, Dr. Thomas Anderson.

Committee chairmen: Ministry and Churches, Dr. Thomas Anderson; Survey and Church Aid, the Rev. Peter Doherty; Evangelism and Stewardship, the Rev. Warren Blankenhorn; Christian Education, Mrs. James T. McAdams.

What Do We Mean By "Our Christian World Mission"

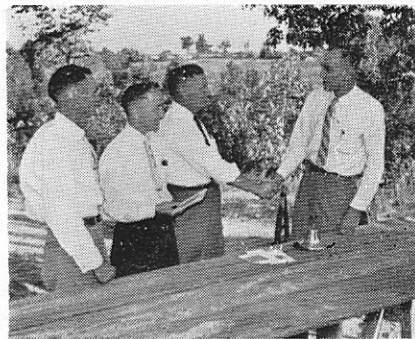
Our Christian World Mission is the ministry of our Congregational Christian Churches beyond their local parishes. It is the total program of missionary endeavor which includes the work of the Conferences, the Board of Home Missions, the Council for Social Action, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and the Congregational Christian Service Committee.



Members of Ambrose Church "feeding the hungry" during Georgia-South Carolina Conference.



The Rev. A. L. DeJarnett, Mrs. DeJarnett, Supt. Butterfield, and the Rev. George L. Day at Soddy Church.



Officers of the newly organized Laymen's Fellowship of North Alabama: Richard Barnes, secretary-treasurer; Pressley Ingram, vice-president; Athel Patterson, president, and A. B. Snell.



The Rev. Annie Campbell leading a discussion group of North Alabama women on Woman's Fellowship program.

Pilgrim Fellowship

Ky.-Tenn. District Rally

Pleasant Hill Community Church was host to the District Rally of the PF of Kentucky-Tennessee on Sept. 15-16.

Bettye Cunningham, president, introduced the leaders and presided over the business sessions.

Work Day for Christ was emphasized, and workshops were held on the three commissions and PF program: Fellowship, Mary Emma Thompson, chairman with Pat Rothwell; Faith, Sut Strong, chairman, with Mrs. Rose Stewart; Action, Frank Little, chairman, with Rev. Annie Campbell; and Program, Martha Wood, chairman, with Dr. Paul Reynolds.

The rally was not all work — soft ball, a picnic supper with Crossville Church in charge, group singing led by Pleasant Hill and recreation directed by Soddy-Daisy enlivened the program.

The work camp slides were shown by Oak Ridge young people, and Bettye Cunningham and Miss Campbell reported on the National PF meeting.

Robbins young people led the Friendship Circle.

Central Georgia Rally

Approximately 70 people, representing six different churches, were present for the Youth Rally at Crest Hebron Church on Sept. 9. The object of this meeting was to organize a Central Georgia Pilgrim Fellowship District. As each person arrived, he was given a name-tag in the shape of a Pilgrim's hat.

Millard Fuller addressed the group, and brief talks were given on the three commissions by Albert Van Cleave, Roger Crawford and Sandra Ellerbee. Ben Cooper and Johnny Van Cleave gave reports on the National Pilgrim Fellowship meeting held in Crete, Nebraska.

A picnic luncheon was served by the Woman's Fellowship of the host church.

Officers were elected as follows: Lola Ray, president; Roger Crawford, vice-president; Sandra Ellerbee, secretary-treasurer and reporter; Shirley Bass, chairman Action Commission; Glenda Morrow, chairman Fellowship Commission; and Mr. W. T. Smith, Adult Advisor.

The officers met at Chipley Oak Grove Church on Sept. 23 to make plans

for the next rally, which will be held Dec. 2, with Oak Grove Church as host.

—Sandra Ellerbee, reporter

Youth In Politics

In the September issue of *Youth*, a magazine published bi-weekly by the E. and R. Church for young people (and now being used by the C. C. young people also), there is a picture and story about Millard Fuller, former president of the SEC Pilgrim Fellowship —

"Caught up by the fascination of the workings of politics, Millard Fuller, 21, of Lanett, Ala., filed his name in February as an alternate delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. A few months later he was on the floor of the giant arena casting his vote for the Democratic Vice Presidential nomination. His candidate won.

"Since he was 17, Millard has been to 32 varied conferences. For three years he was president of the SEC of the Pilgrim Fellowship of the Congregational Christian Churches. He's been program director of Junior Achievement in Opelika, Ala., since he was 19, the nation's youngest such leader. He's active in college politics at Auburn. And he was a PF fraternal delegate to the National Youth Council meeting last month at Catawba." (The E. & R. young people.)

Pilgrim Fellowship Packets

Remember the Pilgrim Fellowship packets mailed out last year? The new packets for this year are now ready to mail. The packet includes a pamphlet on each commission with program suggestions, and many leaflets and pamphlets from the national office.

If there is an organized PF group in your church, please send us a card with the name of the church, the names and addresses of the officers and the adult advisor. We can check this with our mailing list, and if your group is not now on it, we'll add it to the list for receiving a packet.

We would also like to have the number of members in each PF group. Get your young people on the PF mailing list so they will receive all materials and communications of interest to the youth of the Southeast Convention.



Central Georgia District officers: Front row — W. T. Smith, adult advisor; Randy Daniel, Action chairman; Sandra Ellerbee, treasurer and reporter; back row — Glenda Morrow, Fellowship chairman; Lola Ray, president; Shirley Bass, Faith chairman; and Roger Crawford, vice-president.



Kentucky-Tennessee District Officers: Left to right — Bettye Cunningham, president; Frank Little, Action chairman; Sue Strong, Faith chairman; Ann Kampmeier, treasurer; Julia Slagle, Jr. High representative for Tennessee; Freda Tucker, secretary; and Dr. Paul R. Reynolds, adult advisor.

The man who gives to support the church, and then spends his time finding fault with it, is undermining his own investment.

There are those who comfort themselves with the belief that they are doing the Lord's work when they are fighting with other Christians.

WOMAN'S FELLOWSHIP...

Woman's Fellowship Sunday

November 4 marks the first observance in our denomination of Woman's Fellowship Sunday. This day provides an opportunity to describe our purpose and program. We can share our concern for the Mission of the Church and explain with humility our efforts to strengthen Our Christian World Mission.

East Alabama

Woman's Fellowship

The annual meeting was held Sept. 30 in the Alexander City Hunt Memorial Church. Theme of the meeting was "Think on These Things".

The vice-president, Mrs. V. L. Carter, opened the meeting, recognizing visitors and appointing committees.

During the afternoon session workshops were held on the six areas of work: Christian Education, Mrs. Willie Sides; Missionary Education, Mrs. A. R. Van Cleave; Stewardship, Mrs. Olin Doss; Friendly Service, Mrs. Harry Barr; Christian Social Action, Mrs. Noel Allen; and Spiritual Life and Evangelism, Mrs. Joe A. French.

Thirteen churches were represented by delegates, and it was reported that of the 35 churches in East Alabama, 19 have active women's organizations.

Announcement was made of the serious illness of the president, Miss Paralee Hill of Phenix City. The women were requested to send cards of sympathy and cheer, and to pray for Miss Hill's recovery and for progress in cancer research.

The morning sermon was given by the Rev. Lynwood Hubbard, and the afternoon message by the Rev. Carroll W. Lewis.

The new officers were installed by the Rev. Annie R. Campbell:

President, Miss Ellen Hull of Langdale; Vice-president, Mrs. Lola Allen; Secretary, Mrs. Olin Doss; Treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth Floyd.

Chairmen of Areas of Work: Christian Education, Mrs. Noel Allen, Evangelism, Mrs. Bob Keeble; Friendly Service, Mrs. Johnny Wilder; Christian Social Action, Mrs. Harry Barr; Stewardship, Mrs. Render Fuller; Missionary Education, Mrs. Vernon Carter.

Members of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Roanoke First Church were off to a good start at the first

meeting of the conference year, held Sept. 17 at the home of Mrs. Mervin Harper with Mrs. John Sledge as co-hostess.

Lovely arrangements of roses were used throughout the living and dining rooms.

Mrs. K. M. Payne, president, called the meeting to order, welcomed the 19 members and three visitors, and conducted the business session.

Mrs. Mervin Harper, program chairman, presented the new yearbooks and stated that the theme for the year will be "Think on These Things".

Theme for the first program was "Descend Upon My Heart". Mrs. K. M. Payne brought an inspirational devotional, Mrs. Tom L. Head discussed the Measurements for a Woman's Fellowship, and Mrs. Luke Huey read the beatitudes of a Woman's Fellowship.

Secret Pal's names were revealed for the past year when gifts were exchanged among members, and names were drawn for the new year.

Our project for the year is to complete some interior work on our church. We have had a new altar table made, and have ordered an altar set.

Our society has had 100% attendance for some time now.

Those from Roanoke attending the East Alabama Women's Rally at Alexander City Sept. 30 were: from Roanoke First — Mrs. K. M. Payne, Mrs. Mervin Harper, Mrs. D. H. Sheppard, Mrs. Bob Keeble; from Roanoke Lowell — Mrs. Sanford Turner and Mrs. Charlie Williams; from Roanoke Forest Home—Mrs. Lee Smith.

—Mrs. D. H. Sheppard

At the September meeting of the Columbus United Woman's Fellowship, the following officers were elected: Mrs. Ruth Ward, president; Mrs. Luther Marsh, vice-president; Mrs. Lillis Gibson, secretary; and Mrs. W. S. Wood, treasurer.

As the project for this year, the women voted to purchase and install a clock for the church.

The November meeting will be a Thanksgiving supper, with all needy families in the community invited.

No religious service is really a success which fails to make the people aware of the presence of God.

Southern Union College

The college has enrolled the largest student body in its 34-year history, according to Miss Alta I. MacLaren, registrar. The enrollment for 1955-56 set a new record and this year's total of 164 full time students represents a 15% increase. SUC's summer school was also the largest in its history.

While the vast majority of students is from Alabama, the states of Iowa, Tennessee, Kentucky and Georgia are also represented.

Douglas Wasson, acting president of this Congregational Christian junior college, said, "We feel that we are well along toward making an increasing contribution to higher education in Alabama and the South. With a well trained staff and a selective student body, we are very pleased with our progress—thus far."

Expansion items for the year at SUC include the introduction of intercollegiate football, track and tennis to bolster the existing programs in basketball and baseball; the building of a 900 seat capacity physical education building and the completion of the women's dormitory, Pilgrim Hall, which is about half completed now.

After a one-year lapse, the dramatic productions of "Adventures in the Classics" will again be heard over Radio Station WELR in Roanoke, Ala. Directed by Robert C. Yoh, assistant professor of English and Speech at SUC, the half hour presentations will feature students and faculty from the college and is a public service feature of the Roanoke station. Gordon Ellis and Jimmy Dunson of the WELR staff (who are also SUC students) will assist Mr. Yoh. This year's performances will be heard each Tuesday at 1:30 p. m.

As its opening production, the SUC dramatics department will present "The Late Christopher Bean", a three-act comedy, directed by Miss Carolyn P. Welch, on Nov. 9-10 at Elder Hall.

Millard Fuller, former SEC president of Pilgrim Fellowship and a student at Auburn, has been appointed chairman of the fund drive for the new dormitory.

Miss Denada Cecil has been elected campus cheerleader, supported by Misses Joan Talley, Jo Ann Gray, Glenda Barrett, and Hugo Denham and Julius Heath.

Church News....

The Brookmeade Church in Nashville has become a real part of the community this fall. The church began a week-day kindergarten Sept. 4 with 22 pupils enrolled. Mrs. H. T. Frazier, the director, worked for the past five years as director of the Vanderbilt University Kindergarten. Her assistant, Mrs. Ferrell, has also had experience with children and plays the organ and piano.

The church is also the home of three Brownie Scout Troops, meeting Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Plans are underway to sponsor a Cub Scout Troop in the near future.

The Brookmeade Civic Club meets at the church. Over 250 people attended the first meeting.

A Christening Service for children of the church was held Sept. 23.

An Installation Service for the Rev. Clyde C. Flannery will be held Nov. 4. Dr. Stanley U. North, general secretary of the Board of Home Missions, will preach the sermon. Churches of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference have been invited to send representatives for the occasion.

The Vacation Bible School held Aug. 6-10 at Tifton Vanceville Church was very successful. Misses Audrey Stoughton and Phoebe Pemberton conducted the school, which was enjoyed very much by the children, and we feel that much was accomplished. Refreshments were served daily by the women of the church.

Miss Stoughton and Miss Pemberton spent the week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allen.

Misses Wylene and Willene Cooper and Doris Allen spent part of the week at the Waycross Family Camp. A number of the Vanceville women attended the Woman's Retreat on Aug. 23-24, and were very impressed with the work. It is quite helpful to get the packet of materials early and start off with the September program.

Our Woman's Fellowship meeting Sept. 5 was well attended, and the year books have been filled out, and officers elected.

We remembered little seven-year-old Eugene Ray (whom we sponsor at the Elon Orphanage) on his birthday, July 3, and sent \$15 to go on his school cloth-

es.

Our revival began Sept. 9 with the Rev. A. C. Nelson of Lanett, Ala., as the preacher, morning and evening. We had a number of visiting preachers with us during the week: Reverends Warren Blankenhorn, Pete Ward, Cecil Leverett, W. C. Carpenter, Goff Bedford, and Rev. and Mrs. Doty of another fellowship. Good singing each evening was led by Brother Allason of Tifton First Church.

As is our custom, church and Sunday School officers were elected in September. Mrs. W. T. Cooper is president of the Woman's Fellowship; Jeff Hand is Sunday School Superintendent.

We felt very sad in parting with the Rev. Henry Abbott and his family. He has been our faithful pastor for eight years, and he and his family have lived in the community for many years before he began serving the church. They are good neighbors, highly esteemed and loved as true Christians.

The Pilgrim Fellowship of this area met here Sept. 16 for their monthly district meeting. Ambrose, Tifton First and Union Hill churches were represented. The Vanceville group served refreshments.

Ben Cooper is greatly missed since he went to Atlanta to continue his education, but he writes that he enjoys attending church in Atlanta. We are happy to have Denson Wood (who studies in Valdosta) with us occasionally when he comes home on weekends. He was very active in planning the "going-away" party for the Abbotts.

—Mrs. Rosie Hand, reporter

At Mt. Creek Union Church attendance is still at its best. Seven new members have been added to the church roll.

Our young people's class is doing well in a study of the Bible and in social activities. A delicious barbecued chicken supper was held recently.

The laymen of the church have completed work on the church interior. They put up sheetrock, painted it a pale green, and painted the woodwork white. The ceiling was also painted. Floors and benches were stained in dark oak. A committee of the women of the church purchased a rose-colored carpet for the aisle.

Earl Blankenship and Sam Johnson

donated a day's work to the church and built a barbeque pit. The church then gave a family barbeque supper that was enjoyed tremendously by everyone.

—Mrs. Leonard Smith and Mrs. S. T. Johnson

The Ft. Valley First Church is showing steady progress under the leadership of the Rev. Paul Pike.

The regular church program includes prayer meeting each Wednesday night and various business meetings of the boards of the church.

Plans are underway to build a cedar pulpit stand, and make some needed repairs to the church.

The church lawn has been considerably improved, enhancing the appearance of the church.

PUERTO RICO TOUR

The 1957 tour to Puerto Rico will begin with a midnight flight from New York City on January 7, 1957. With almost nine full days in Puerto Rico, this tour will enable the tour party to obtain an excellent view of our missionary work in Puerto Rico and also to get good insights into the social and economic changes going on in this exciting Commonwealth.

December 1st is the deadline for registrations, according to the Rev. Galen R. Weaver of the Board of Home Missions. Only 15 persons can be accommodated, and the tour cost will be \$255.

MISSION TODAY: New Magazine

"A Workday in Missionary Education" on the opposite page is reprinted from the new magazine *Mission Today*, published by the Missions Council and replacing both *Facts From The Field* and *The Envelope Series*. Three copies are being mailed to each active minister.

This magazine would be most helpful to any chairman of Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education in the conference, association or local church, or to any person interested in this phase of the denominational program. If you would like to receive copies of this magazine, send in your name to the Editorial Office, 14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass. It is FREE.

A Workday in Missionary Education

A. Plan For A Local Church

PURPOSE: To increase acquaintance with our Christian World Mission at home and abroad; to prepare leaders to help their churches toward greater interest and fuller participation in this Mission.

INITIATED BY: Local church Committee on Stewardship and Missionary Education; or any organized group within the church.

TIME: The Sunday following World-Wide Communion is suggested as especially appropriate. Otherwise, another strategic day in the church year.

PERSONNEL: Local church Committee on Stewardship and Missionary Education; leaders from all auxiliaries within the church; persons specially interested or experienced in this field.

PREPARATION by sponsoring group:

Publicity: Do a thorough job so that the right people come.

Rooms: One room (not sanctuary) where total group can meet for worship and discussion; smaller rooms for sub-groups.

Equipment: Blackboard, table for display materials.

Meal arrangements: In church dining room if possible; in any case, where table program may be carried out.

Order basic materials for display, interpretation, circulation.

Arrange with individual leaders to preside, lead in worship, have equipment in readiness, or participate in other ways.

SESSIONS: Two: afternoon and evening (or forenoon and afternoon).

INTRODUCED BY: Minister's sermon on same day, or on preceding Sunday, interpreting Our Christian World Mission.

Session One (2½ Hours)

20 min. INTRODUCTION AND WORSHIP. Interpretation of Our Christian World Mission as inherent in our faith.

Use, perhaps, interpretations of Stewardship and of Missionary Education given in the *Guide for the Committee on Stewardship and Missionary Education in the Local Church*, and statements in Session I of *Your Church and Its Mission to America* (available free to all Missions Council offices).

40 min. INFORMATION PERIOD. An

organized presentation of Our Christian World Mission by (choose which):

Functions (Evangelism, Teaching, Healing, Relief, etc.)

Geographical Spread (Countries, Areas)

Units of Work (American Missionary Association, Council for Social Action, Town and Country, etc.)

This may be done by lecture method, group study of basic materials or a series of brief reports, previously prepared. It should give a vivid word-picture of Our Christian World Mission at work, at home and abroad. (See Materials).

Questions or Quiz, to make sure the total group understands the facts which have been presented.

15 min. BUZZ or FELLOWSHIP PERIOD. To exchange ideas as to individual and group responsibility for Our Christian World Mission in your church, and problems you face in discharging these responsibilities. (This period should relate directly to presentations and discussions above.)

45 min. PARALLEL SESSIONS of SMALLER GROUPS, each analyzing its present emphasis on the Church's mission and discussing the development of its own task in Missionary Education. The total group may divide:

a. By responsibilities in the church.

b. By age-groups or auxiliaries, as: Church School leaders; youth or youth leaders; Woman's Fellowship; Layman's Fellowship; etc.

30 min. REPORTS OF PARALLEL SESSIONS, tabulating results.

Meal Recess

If possible, brief program features at table, such as: film portraying one unit of Our Christian World Mission at work; "minute men," each telling one fact about Our Christian World Mission; speaker on one unit of the work; skit showing the local committee at work.

Session Two (1½ Hours)

35 min. SUPERVISED STUDY. Using *Guide for Committee on Stewardship and Missionary Education in the Local Church*, make detailed study of opportunities and activities of such committees, selecting those most needed in your church.

20 min. FORUM: Ways of correlating small group efforts into an integrated, round-the-year program of Stewardship

and Missionary Education, with suggestions for a standing, representative, functioning Committee at work through the year.

30 min. PARALLEL SESSIONS. Work out samples of some of above activities, as:

a. Plan "open meeting" of a local committee prior to the Every Member Canvass, to prepare the parish with current information about Our Christian World Mission.

b. Special session of committee to prepare new church members for intelligent churchmanship.

c. Committee activity in some specific project, as: World's Fair; School of Stewardship; Workday in Missionary Education; Study of Annual Mission Themes.

15 min. REPORTS of parallel groups to general session.

10 min. DEDICATION of group to renewed service in Our Christian World Mission.

BASIC MATERIALS for use during Workday (Secure from your Conference Office or from the Missions Council):

Guide for Committee on Stewardship and Missionary Education in the Local Church.

Printed Materials on Our Christian World Mission.

People — Here and Now (Biennial report of the Board of Home Missions).

People — The Ferment and the Hope (Report of the Prudential Committee of the American Board).

The American Board Year Book — 50c
Sample copies of *Advance*, *Mission Today*, *Letter of the Month*.

B. Plan For Groups of Churches Meeting Together

PERSONNEL: Same groups as listed above, from each church.

INITIATED BY: Any one of the churches, or the Association or Conference Committee on Stewardship, Missionary Education and Promotion.

PROCEDURES: Same as in Plan for a Local Church, but sharing the experiences and backgrounds of all churches met together, in terms of their status in and plans for Stewardship and Missionary Education.

—Prepared by the Commission on Missionary Education

Mrs. Fred Self
P. O. Box 503
Thomaston, Ga.

Self

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS
673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.
Atlanta, Georgia

Entered as Second Class

Porters In Connecticut

The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Matthew B. Porter have moved to Connecticut, where Mr. Porter accepted a call to the Griswold First Congregational Church.

Mr. Porter was moderator of the Ga.-South Carolina Conference for the past two years, chairman of the SEC Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education since last April, and pastor of the Center Church of Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Porter is a past president of North Georgia Women's Fellowship, and was the representative of the SEC Woman's Fellowship on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Porter have been very active in conference and convention affairs, members of various committees, and have contributed much to the ongoing of the churches of the Southeast Convention.

Before coming to Atlanta Center Church, the Porters served the trailer camp community in Aiken, S. C., while the H-bomb plant was being constructed.

The Porters carry with them our wishes for success and happiness in their new field.

Pickens Goes To Florida

The Rev. John E. Pickens Jr. has accepted a call to the New Smyrna Beach Congregational Church, in the Florida Conference.

For the past four years Mr. Pickens has been serving the United Congregational Christian Church of LaGrange, Ga.

Mr. Pickens was the first chairman of the SEC Christian Education Committee, organized in 1953, and did much to get this committee and the Pilgrim Fellowship off to a good start.

Throughout his pastorate in LaGrange he has taken an interest in Convention affairs and we wish him continued happiness and success in his new field.

Mr. Pickens' father, the Rev. John E. Pickens Sr., is associated with the Florida Conference as manager of the Avon Park Conference Center.



WILLIAM FRANK GORDON

Gordons Move To Arizona

Wm. Frank Gordon, treasurer of the Southeast Convention and president of the SEC Layman's Fellowship, moved to Tuscon, Arizona on Oct. 17.

Mrs. W. F. Gordon, his wife, was the president of the woman's Fellowship of the Georgia-South Carolina Conference.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Gordon have been very active in convention affairs, and each has made several trips in the area in the interest of laymen and lay women of the Congregational Christian Church.

The Gordons will be closer to their children and grandchildren, and we wish them every happiness in their new home. Their leadership and contribution of time and talent to the work of the convention will be greatly missed.

People And Places . . .

Correction: We are happy to announce that the Rev. Raymond Berry will remain as pastor of the Andalusia Antioch Church. His resignation has been withdrawn.

The Rev. A. C. Nelson has resigned his pastorate at Lanett Huguley Church and accepted a call to serve Roanoke Antioch and LaFayette Pleasant Grove Churches.

The Rev. George Chambers, former pastor of the Demorest Federated Church, has been moved by the Methodists to a church in Clayton, Ga.

Reverend—An Adjective

There is considerable confusion about the proper use of the word "reverend." Many people say "Reverend Smith," or what is still worse, "Good morning, Reverend." It is never proper to speak of him as "Reverend Smith."

Unlike the words Professor, Judge and Dean, which are titles and nouns, "reverend" is neither. It is not a title. It is not a noun. It is an adjective. While one may properly speak of a Judge or a Dean, he does not properly speak of a "Reverend."

The word is used only in speaking of a person, never in speaking to a person. It is never properly used without the article "the" preceding it, and without the term "mister" or the Christian name of the person coming between it and the surname. For instance, one might say "I am eager for you to meet the Reverend Mr. Smith," or "I should like to present you to the Reverend Mr. John Smith." He would never say "Good morning, Reverend" or "That was a helpful sermon, Reverend Smith."

The correct use of the word "reverend" is quite simple:

1. Never use it in speaking to a minister; use it only in speaking of a minister.
2. Use it only with article "the" before it and Mr. or the minister's Christian name following it.
3. When referring to a clergyman and his wife it is proper to say, "I should like to present you to the Reverend Mr. and Mrs. John Smith."

If you want to make your minister friends happy, call them either by their first names, if you know them well enough to do so, or call them "mister."

Work Day For Christ

Write and tell us what your group did on Oct. 20 to earn your Work Day For Christ money; and send the funds to the Southeast Convention Office, 673 Piedmont Ave., N. E., marked "Work Day for Christ", so we can report in to the national office on time!